

DOCKET NO: 245902US2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
AYAKO KOBAYASHI : EXAMINER: NGUYEN, A.  
SERIAL NO: 10/723,603 :  
FILED: NOVEMBER 26, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2625  
FOR: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS :  
THAT CHECKS HARDWARE  
RESOURCES BEFORE ACTIVATING  
HARDWARE-RELATED PROGRAMS

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated November 16, 2009, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 21 of this paper.